

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants:	Neeper, Michael P. et al.		
Serial No.:	Not yet assigned (Continuation application of USSN 09/642,405)	Case No.: 20413YCA	Art Unit: Not yet assigned (previously Unit 1632)
Filed:	Herewith		Examiner: Not yet assigned (previously Qian J. Li)
For:	SYNTHETIC HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS GENES		

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115**

Sir:

Applicants request entry of this amendment prior to examination of the above-identified application, which is a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of USSN 09/642,405.

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement/PTO 1449 in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(1). Copies of art cited in the IDS are enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a).

Any fees associated with the submission of this amendment can be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION** appear on page 3 of this paper.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**REMARKS** begin on page 5 of this paper.